

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1164
By Turner B

A RESOLUTION to recognize Cyndee Rice Sims for her longtime dedication to senior citizens in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Cyndee Rice Sims is one such laudable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of Senior Neighbors of Chattanooga, Incorporated, Ms. Sims is wholly committed to the development and strengthening of senior centers in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, experienced in all levels of the Senior Service field, Cyndee Rice Sims holds a Master of Arts degree in Sociology along with a Graduate Certificate in Gerontology; she was employed in nursing homes, before developing the first day care center for seniors in Hamilton County and serving as its Director; and

WHEREAS, for the past seventeen years, Ms. Sims has served as Executive Director of Senior Neighbors of Chattanooga, Inc., where she pioneered the development of Intergeneration Programs in senior centers; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Cyndee Rice Sims was certified as a Retirement Counselor, and then, in 1999, she was certified as a National Institute of Senior Centers Accreditation Trainer and as a National Institute of Senior Centers Peer Reviewer; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Sims has worked with local, state, and federal officials to further programs and senior centers for the elderly; she collaborated with Dr. Ron Aday, sociology professor at Middle Tennessee State University, to develop an outcome measurement survey tool, which is now used in senior centers across the nation; and

WHEREAS, wholly dedicated to her profession, she serves on the board of the National Council on Aging (NCOA) and is a Past Chair of the National Institute of Senior Citizens (NISC); she is also the Immediate Past Chair of the Chattanooga Association of United Way Agency Executives; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Sims is a 1985-86 graduate of Leadership Chattanooga and a 1990 graduate of Leadership Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a published author, Cyndee Rice Sims co-wrote articles on intergenerational programs for the Gerontologist and The Journal of Applied Gerontology; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded by her peers and highly respected in her community, Ms. Sims was named a Chattanooga Woman of Distinction in 2002; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her public service on behalf of senior citizens, Cyndee Rice Sims is also deeply involved in numerous volunteer projects, including Riverbend Festival, the Chattanooga Regional History Museum, and First-Centenary United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, with quiet, soft-spoken leadership, Ms. Sims has distinguished herself with laudable professional and civic endeavors; her professional career has been recognized, locally and nationally, for the steadfast commitment in her life's work with older adults; and

WHEREAS, she continues to dedicate countless hours on behalf of senior citizens and senior centers in Tennessee, and the state of Tennessee is privileged to have such a dedicated worker and supporter for the field of the aging; and

WHEREAS, a public spirited citizen of the highest order, Mrs. Sims epitomizes the spirit and commitment that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Cyndee Sims is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize Cyndee Rice Sims for her unswerving commitment to the advancement of senior centers in Tennessee, thank her for her meritorious service to our state and nation, and extend our best wishes for every continued success in her future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.